that regime, can do so. This, coupled with the rationalization of the tax regimes for Indian seafarers, would to a large extent help rejuvenate the Indian Shipping Industry.

Conversion of Vizag into Transhipment Centre

4904. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) wheather Vizag is being converted into a transhipment centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Keeping in view the totality of the factors, especially potential for traffic for transhipment and geographical location *vis-a-vis* international shipping routes, development of Visakhapatnam port into a Transhipment Centre is not considered viable.

Use of Fuel on Operation of Waterways Traffic

†4905. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of fuel on operation of waterways traffic is less as compared to that of rail and road traffic;

(b) if so, the average consumption of fuel on operation of waterways, rail and road traffic, separately;

(c) whether the operation of waterways traffic is less as compared to that of rail and surface traffic due to the decrease in the use of fuel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.